

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 00781 042320Z
ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 AID-05 IGA-02
PA-01 PRS-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 PM-04 SP-02 IO-13 INRE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 DODE-00 /106 W
-----042326Z 031166 /70

O 042245Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4231

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 0781

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, HA
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTING TO CONGRESS

REF: (A) STATE 046674, (B) STATE 307339

1. FOLLOWING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES NOT IN CONGRESSIONAL REPORT
MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR MARCH 7 HEARINGS:

(A) ADDITIONAL RELEASE OF 21 POLITICAL PRISONERS
ANNOUNCED MARCH 2 (PORT AU PRINCE 766);

(B) AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENTS (IN PRIVATE) THAT A NEW
FACILITY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION
IN JUNE 1977; AND

(C) EVIDENCE THAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO IMPROVE
CONDITIONS IN OTHER PRISONS, E.G. FOOD, VISITORS' PRIVILEGES,
MAIL, ACCESS TO BOOKS, IN RESPONSE TO ICRC RECOMMENDATIONS
MADE DURING VISIT IN 1976.

2. LESS ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT WAS SECURITY SERVICE
INTERROGATION OF THE PUBLISHERS OF TWO WEEKLY JOURNALS,
ONE ON JANUARY 29 AND THE OTHER ON FEBRUARY 28 (PORT AU PRINCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT A 00781 042320Z

429 AND 776). THE FIRST PUBLISHER HAS CRUSADED FOR A MORE
SWEEPING ANTI-CORRUPTION CAMPAIGN AND OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN
RIGHTS GUARANTEED UNDER HAITIAN CONSTITUTION. THE SECOND
INTERROGATION FOLLOWED AN ARTICLE PROTESTING THE ARREST AND
DETENTION FOR SEVERAL HOURS OF A REPORTER OBSERVING GOVERN-
MENT RICE DISTRIBUTION PROCEDURES. BOTH PUBLISHERS
WERE RELEASED UNHARMED AFTER QUESTIONING AND CONTINUE TO

PUBLISH. ALTHOUGH SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE ASSURED
US THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO TOLERATE RESPONSIBLE CRITICISMS,
SECURITY SERVICES EVIDENTLY DEFINE "RESPONSIBLE" AFTER THEIR
OWN FASHION, AND ARE KEEPING CLOSE WATCH ON TREND TO TACKLE
HEAD-ON SENSITIVE ISSUES LONG TABOO IN HAITIAN MEDIA.
ISHAM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTA00781
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770075-0887
Format: TEL
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770392/aaaaddev.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d4b7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DHA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 46674, 77 STATE 307339
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3206658
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTING TO CONGRESS
TAGS: SHUM, HA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d4b7adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009